

All of these things come together to form an economic strategy that will give opportunity to every American, and ask responsibility from every American. But we can't take any of the steps if we don't take the first step.

That's why the decision Congress must make this week is so terribly important. We cannot afford not to act. I need your help. I need for you to tell the people's representatives to get on with the people's business. Tell them to change the direction of the economy and do it now, so that we can start growing again, producing jobs again, and moving our country forward again.

In the last 6 months, we've won some important battles here: a new family and medical leave law just taking effect that allows young parents to take time off to care for a new baby or a sick child or an ill parent without losing their jobs; a new national service corps that will help tens of thousands of our young people to pay for college through service to their country in their communities; a new Supreme Court Justice confirmed just today without partisanship or rancor; new policies to develop high-technology jobs into converted defense facilities and plants to productive civilian purposes, expanding jobs and opportunity. And, from a summit in Vancouver, Canada, to help save Russian democracy, to a summit in Tokyo to help revive the world economy, there are many new opportunities for Americans and a new respect for America's leadership.

We Americans are a people both privileged and challenged. We were formed in turbulent times, and we stand now at the beginning of a new time, the dawn of a new era. Our deeds and decisions can lift America up so that in our third century we will continue to be the youngest and most optimistic of nations; a people on the march once again, strong and unafraid. If we are bold in our hopes, if we meet our great responsibilities, we will give the country we love the best years it has ever known.

Good night, and may God bless you all on this journey.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8 p.m. from the Oval Office at the White House. A tape was not

available for verification of the content of this address.

Statement on an Agreement on Pacific Northwest Timber Sales

August 3, 1993

We are committed to working to enhance the long-term economic and environmental health of the region. That commitment means a responsible forest management plan and a responsible but determined effort to get timber moving back into the mills. We have offered an innovative, comprehensive, and balanced plan to solve a difficult set of problems. Now we are taking steps to implement that plan and get timber to the mills.

NOTE: This statement was part of a White House press release announcing the agreement.

Nominations for Commissioner of Social Security and Director of the National Institutes of Health

August 3, 1993

President Clinton announced his intention today to nominate Texas Woman's University president Shirley Chater to be the Commissioner of Social Security and Nobel laureate Harold Varmus to be the Director of the National Institutes of Health at the Department of Health and Human Services.

"It gives me great pleasure to announce these nominations today," said the President. "Shirley Chater is an accomplished administrator with a strong background in health care issues. I am convinced that she will do an outstanding job of running this enormous and enormously important Agency. Likewise, as one of the world's leading medical researchers, Harold Varmus will bring great strength and leadership to the National Institutes of Health."

NOTE: Biographies of the nominees were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.